Kataomoi to Parade

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Chapter 4

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Unequited Love Parade

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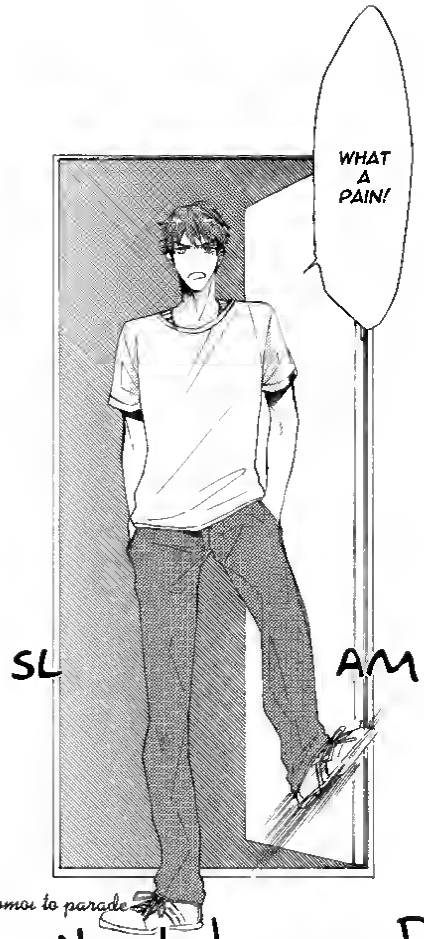
Fujoshi Bitches

Oh, no...
I'M SORRY,
I'LL PICK IT ALL UP SOON, YOU GO ON AHEAD
SHRIEK!
rustle
rustle
sweat
sweat
THE FILE ROOM'S AT THE END OF THE HALL ON THE RIGHT
not moving
YOU'LL SEE IT
RIGHT AWAY
ALLOW ME

patter
patter
GO AHEAD AND GET THE DOOR!
Ah-
IT'S OKAY 'CAUSE I CAN CARRY ALL THIS
TOTALLY FINE
WHAT, ARE YOU OKAY WITH ALL THAT?
blush
W-WELL, I'LL...
I'M SORRY, THANK YOU
flush



katasomoi to parade

Unrequited Love Parade

case 4

AHHOY!!
OH,
DON'T OPEN THE DOOR WITH YOUR FOOT!
SQUEAK
PURPOSELY CLOSING DOOR WITH FOOT
GEEZ~
hustle
Thank you
LOOK,
LET THE LADY FROM THE OFFICE HELP THE REST OF TODAY'S CLIENTS.
I'M PROMPTLY DONE WITH MY JOBS, YONEZAWA-SENPAI

THANKS FOR YOUR EFFORT. HOW'D IT GO?
IT'S NOT LIKE I HAD A CHOICE.
BUT PLAYING COURTEOUS TO WOMEN FOR A LONG TIME WEARS ME OUT
GEEZ.
THE REQUESTS THAT COME IN TO JACK-OF-ALL-TRADES,
AREN'T THEY ALL JUST AN OUTPOURING OF WHAT'S ON THE CLIENTS' MINDS?
POOF
'CAUSE OF THAT, DOESN'T THAT MAKES US MERE HANDYMEN?
OBVIOUSLY WE CAN'T RESTRICT OURSELVES TO ONLY MAJOR REQUESTS.
FOR THE SAKE OF KEEPING THE CLUB GOING, WE'RE CREATING AN IMPORTANT PIPELINE.
ALSO, OUR CLIENTS ARE ALL WOMEN!
Ahaha.
BESIDES...

IT'LL HELP YOU FIND THE RIGHT GIRL
...TO ACT AS A BEARD, WON'T IT?
WHOOSH
So, EXACTLY WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
WHO KNOWS?
Before going on to today's requests,
let's go back and review the previous one.
MACHIKO-CHAN, WILL YOU GO OUT WITH ME FOR REAL?

Huh?!
WHAT RE YOU SAYING?
I'D
LIKE IT IF YOU'RE WILLING, MACHIKO-CHAN
BA
SH
WHAT'S WITH THAT?!
YOU'RE SUG-GESTING WE SHOULD USE EACH OTHER TO COMPEN-SATE FOR OUR UNREQUITED LOVE?
THAT'S JUST DUMB! IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A COVER-UP, GO FIND SOMEONE ELSE!

YOU CAN'T RUN AWAY JUST 'CAUSE IT'S HARD
WHAT'RE WE SUPPOSED TO DO ABOUT OUR BODIES?
WHAT ABOUT OUR LOVE?
Sigh
I'M GOING HOME
Naturally, Yone-senpai overheard it
my weak points got seized on when I tried in desperation to date a girl
And that's how

MON
Achoo
This week's batch of troublesome women...
TUE
Help lab move to new quarters
WED
GEH
How's it?
That's gross
Victim of experiments he doesn't understand
THU
Help lady at the office
...whose requests I have to fulfill alone
Model for art club
I'M OFF FOR TODAY,
BUT TOMORROW'S MATSUSHITA-SAN, RIGHT?
HELPING MEMBERS OF THE INTER-DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE
That's right~
OH!
I don't recommend that girl as a beard, be careful!
I. TOLD. YOU!
WHAT
RL
I DON'T NEED ANY COVER-UP,
SO, PLEASE EXCUSE ME FROM THESE TASKS I KNOW NOTHING OF
OPEN

EX-
EXCUSE ME
WHAT'S WRONG, TAKAYA?
I'M BACK FROM WALKING NANA TO THE STATION
I SEE, BUT WHY'RE YOU BACK?
Takaya's
HOW WERE YOUR CLIENTS TODAY, TOUMA?
YOU DON'T LIKE WORKING WITH WOMEN, RIGHT?
YOU HAVE NOT BEEN MESSING WITH ME LATELY, TOUMA, SO I'M QUITE CONCERNED
THROB
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU'RE MAKING A WEIRD FACE
NOTHING
BLUSHING WITHOUT REALIZING IT

I'VE BEEN WORRIED ABOUT YOU
THAT'S NOT TRUE WELL...
kindness, as always, is like rubbing salt into my wounds
DON'T LEAVE, YONE-SENPAI

I REALLY HAVE TO PAY CLOSE ATTENTION WHEN IT'S ONLY WOMEN CLIENTS
IT'S A PAIN,
BUT I DO THEM IN YOUR PLACE 'CAUSE YOU HAVE NANA-CHAN, RIGHT?
Let's quit the club!
HUH,
WHY THAT ALL OF A SUDDEN?
If it weren't for that bit of salt, I think I'd be happy, at least for the most part
Idiot
Idiot
AREN'T WE
JUST MERE HANDYMEN HERE?
CAN'T DENY THAT BUT STILL
IF YOU HATE IT, LET'S QUIT IT TOGETHER
BESIDES,
YOUR MOOD LATELY HAS BEEN REALLY WEIRD, TOUMA.
badump

I WASN'T BULLIED INTO THIS,
BUT
IF THAT'S THE CASE, YOU SHOULD'VE SAID SOMETHING
TRUTH IS, WE'VE BEEN BULLIED INTO THIS SO WHY SHOULD WE GO ON? WELL, APART FROM THAT ENTRANCE CEREMONY INCIDENT
NO MATTER,
SO HOW CAN I TELL YOU THAT I'M AFRAID YOU MIGHT FIND THAT OUT?
YOU MIGHT BE DISGUSTED WHEN I TELL YOU I LOVE YOU
I WASN'T BULLIED,
AND I DON'T THINK I HATE IT EITHER, SO LET'S STAY
YOU WERE
WORRIED ABOUT ME?

IF SOMETHING HAPPENED, WOULD YOU TELL ME?
HOW THE HECK AM I SUPPOSED TO?
YOU MEAN...
WELL, I DEFINITELY WON'T BE QUITTING
IF I'VE GOT SOMETHING I CAN TELL YOU?
EVEN NOW, IT'S PATHETIC THE WAY YOU TOUCH MY HEART
CLICK
SO?
UH, ...SHOULD WE GO TOGETHER?
WELL, I'M GOING HOME...
I'M NOT GOING YET.
step
step

DONE?
PEEK
WERE YOU EAVES-DROPPING?
THAT'S DIS-GRACEFUL. I WANTED TO LEAVE BUT YOU GUYS WERE TALKING
HE TOLD YOU HE'S STAYING BACK?
UH
YEAH, HE DID
grin
ARE YOU JEALOUS?

WHADDAYA MEAN BY JEALOUS?
I WAS JUST WORRIED ABOUT TOUMA
I WASN'T BUT I COULD HEAR YOU
YOU WERE LISTENING IN AFTER ALL!!!
I JUST THOUGHT I'D TELL HIM NOT TO WORRY ABOUT IT
H-HE'S ALWAYS BEEN KINDA SOFT-HEARTED SINCE HE WAS A KID AND HE WON'T SAY IT IF HE DOESN'T LIKE SOME-THING
SO I

WHAT?
YOU'RE OVER-PROTECTIVE
YOU THINK YOU CAN KEEP THINGS THE SAME AS WHEN YOU WERE KIDS?
HUH?!
I SAID YOU'RE WAY TOO PROTECTIVE OF TOUMA-KUN
QUIT MAKING FUN OF ME, I'VE BEEN FRIENDS WITH TOUMA SINCE WE WERE KIDS
THAT'S WHAT I MEAN
WITHOUT CHANGING ANYTHING?

chatter
chatter
OH?
EVEN IF YOU'RE GROWN-UPS NOW?
ISN'T THAT MOMOSE-KUN THERE?
HE'S HAVING LUNCH WITH A GIRL, HOW UNCOMMON
OH, HE'S BEEN MEETING LOTS OF THEM LATELY 'CAUSE OF THE CLUB
OOO
Oh.

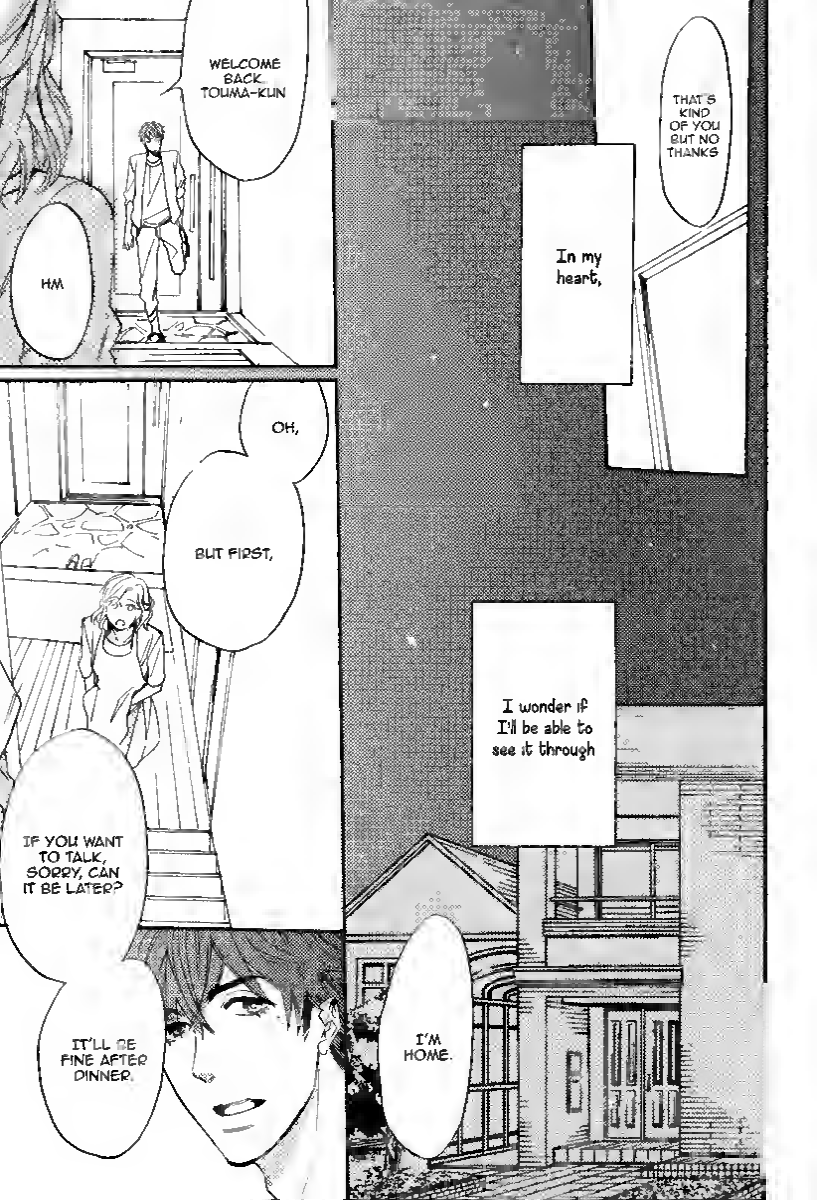
I didn't see her.
REAL-LY?
SHE'S MATSU-SHITA TOWAKO-SAN, AND SHE WAS ALSO THE COMMITTEE CHAIRWOMAN OF THE FESTIVAL
SHE S SOOO GORGEOUS
Oh, oh, oh!
THE GIRL HE'S WITH!
Hm?
SLAP
SLAP
SHE'S LAST YEAR'S BEAUTY PAG-EANT WINNER
I know 'cause I was at the school festival
MM-HM, YOU'RE REALLY BESTIES WITH MOMOSE-KUN, EH.
?
WE'RE CHILDHOOD FRIENDS, THAT'S WHY, AHHHH.
WHAT?
UGH, NO, NO WAY.
TOUMA'S NOT SUITED FOR THIS TYPE, SO NO WAY.
PFFT
chew
chew

BWA HA
HA HA HA HA
Ha, you're so funny!
WHAT COULD HE MEAN BY THAT?
HE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT NOT CHANGING ANYTHING EVEN IF WE'RE GROWN-UPS.
NO, NOTHING
SOMETHING WRONG?
WHEN I ASKED IF YOU'D HELP OUT WITH THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL,
YOU DIDN'T HEAR ME SO I HOPE YOU WON'T MIND ME REPEATING MYSELF
HERE'S THE SCHEDULE!
Seriously?
Right? That's why I'm in his fan club
Natsuki, the guy's so funny!
SLIDE
Please leave me alone!

WELL, YONEZAWA NATSUKI WAS CONCERNED WHICH KID WOULD BE BEST,
SO IF YOU AGREE...
HE'S MY KOUHAI, TOWAKO-SAN, SO I'LL WATCH OVER HIM
I MEAN LOOK AT HIM...
...Never in the world have I seen such a can-do attitude!!!
EXCITED
EXCITED
EXCITED
EXCITED
This is the real him,
makes me wanna take care of him more~!
PAT
THAT'S RIGHT, SUCH A GUY

I'M GOING BACK.
mutter
WHIRL
IT MAKES ME WANNA FIND HIM A NEW PLACE TO LIVE
Haha
IT WAS JUST A FIGURE OF SPEECH
IS HE LOOKING FOR A NEW PLACE?
OH, OF COURSE.

'CAUSE YOU CAN COME STAY WITH ME ♡


I'M HOME.
IT'LL BE FINE AFTER DINNER.
IF YOU WANT TO TALK, SORRY, CAN IT BE LATER?
I wonder if I'll be able to see it through
BUT FIRST,
OH,
HM
WELCOME BACK TOUMA-KUN
In my heart,
THAT'S KIND OF YOU BUT NO THANKS

Taka-chan's
hccc rccc~
YO!
MOM, WHY'D YOU LET HIM IN?!
I THOUGHT IT'D BE OKAY SINCE IT'S TAKA-CHAN
That's right, Touma!
Why're you there?
Dunno
I thought it'd be fine to let your friends in.
CLICK
LOCK
NOISY
AH, WELL.
Looking stylish as always while reading a magazine.
WHY'D YOU COME?
THIS TIMING

WHY DON'T YOU TAKE A SEAT?
PAT
PAT
FAR AS POSSIBLE
UH, YEAH, I MEAN...
TOUMA,
GUESS YOU REALLY WON'T QUIT THE CLUB, EH.
I'M NOT QUITTING

YONE-SENPAI'S NOT ALL BAD, IF I DON'T THINK TOO MUCH OF HIS IDIOT WAYS
ALSO, UNLIKE BEFORE, I RECENTLY GOT TO TALK TO DIFFERENT KINDS OF PEOPLE
I'M A UNIVERSITY STUDENT NOW SO...
But even if I'm worn out, even if it hurts me,
up till now, the feeling of wanting to be with him has won out.
Being like this wears me out
THAT'S HOW I HAVE TO LIVE

I CAN'T JUST CLING TO YOU ANYMORE

THAT'S TRUE!
WHEN YOU PUT IT LIKE THAT, WE'VE BEEN LIBERATED SINCE THE ENTRANCE EXAMS,
LET'S TRY DOING ALL SORTS OF DIFFERENT STUFF!
WELL, IT'S FINE,
UH, BUT
THAT'S WHY I JOINED THE CLUB,
THAT'S IT, THAT'S WHY

sniff
TO SUD-
DENLY LOOK
AT OLDER
GIRLS,
AND TRYING
FOR AN ADULT
KIND OF
LOVE
FLINCH
YOU STINK
OF PERFUME

I HATE
THAT SMELL.

Ha
I'M OFF,
SEE YA TOMORROW.
badump
badump
badump
badump
Haa
wave
TREMBLE
"WE CAN'T BE TOGETHER FOREVER"
fsssh
I COULD HAVE TOLD HIM THAT AND WAITED FOR HIS RESPONSE
cough cough
GAS

I WANTED TO TELL HIM.
...NOT BECOMING LOVERS BUT STILL WANTING TO STAY AT THIS SAME DISTANCE?
IS IT A CHOICE BETWEEN TELLING HIM THAT OR...
Ha, ha.
fsssshh
RUB
RUB
Uh
Haa, haa.

Uh!!!
DRIP
DRIP
THOSE BRIEF WORDS WHICH WERE MEANT TO COMFORT ME,
HAVE FILLED MY WORLD WITH YOU

case 4/END